

The Gimlet

Monthly Circulation
50,000



The gimlet is a small instrument
with a point

November, 1912

- Damages 10 Cents per annum -
- We need the money - There may be more numbers - That all depends -
- This is real second class stuff that pays first class postage - No post offices entered.

WALDEN 1906



THIS IS A FINE CHRISTMAS PRESENT

The Shapleigh Special Electric Sad Iron can be quickly attached to any electric lamp socket and heated in from two to three minutes. It consumes less current than any other iron of the same weight. It will not get out of order and is fool-proof.

No. 500—Full nickel plated, complete with seven feet of cord and stand, each.....\$5.00

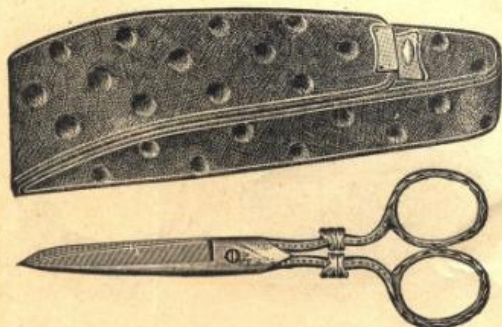
WHY BE SEEDY

In appearance, when with the use of one of these electric sad irons and a few moments' work you can press your trousers or your skirt. In these days no man can do his best work unless he has a clean shave and carefully pressed trousers. Baggy trousers and mussed skirts always suggest carelessness and indifference. An electric sad iron will make a useful, hence an attractive, present.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

The Gimlet



FANCY SCISSOR SET IN CASE

This set contains three pair of scissors—one each $3\frac{1}{2}$, $4\frac{1}{2}$ and $5\frac{1}{2}$ -inch. The case is 6 inches long and divided into compartments for each scissor.

Scissors have fancy swaged gold and silver plated handles; nickel plated and polished blades. The case is fancy velvet tanned leather with gilt clasp, plush lined.

No. 105—Per set.....\$4.25

THERE IS SOMETHING LUXURIOUS

and elegant in the appearance of a set of scissors in a red leather case. The bright shine of the scissors and the color of the leather seem to set each other off. I scarcely know of a Christmas present that could be more refined and useful than a set of these scissors.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"



Protect Your Home With a Colt Automatic Pistol

The 25 Caliber Colt Automatic is so small that it will not cover the palm of the hand; at the same time it is a most powerful and deadly weapon. Every householder should have this Pistol in his home for protection. Buy yourself one for a

Christmas Present

No. 2252AA. 25 Caliber, Six Shots, 2-inch Barrel; each.....\$15.00

IN THESE DAYS

when there are so many automobile highwaymen it is a good thing to have a little Colt automatic handy in one's pocket. Were you ever held up? If you were, I am sure you didn't mind the loss of your money and valuables as much as you did the helpless feeling of having some stranger make you stand in the road with both of your hands reaching heavenward. Somehow, it is a reflection on one's manhood to be caught in this way. Now a little Colt automatic might not only save your property, but also lead you to retain your self respect.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"



THIS SHAPLEIGH SPECIAL BICYCLE

Would delight your son. Make him happy and give it to him for a Christmas present. Has 28-inch wheels. Frame made of the finest tubing—good tires, good chain, good pedals, adjustable handle bar and easy saddle. Both tires and bicycle fully guaranteed—suitable for boys twelve years and older, and also grown men.

No. 366G—Each.....\$25.00

With Corbin Duplex Coaster Brake

We will furnish this bicycle equipped with the Corbin Duplex Coaster Brake if desired. This Brake makes easy riding and adds safety.

Price with this Coaster Brake.....\$30.00

We can also furnish wheels for younger children.

EVERY MAN WHO CAN CUT DOWN TIME

lengthens his life. Why walk, when with the use of an up-to-date bicycle you can travel five times as fast in the same time—and not only travel faster but more pleasantly. Bicycles are coming back into favor. They not only save time, but there is no more healthy exercise than bicycle riding. We have a full stock of all kinds and varieties at your disposal.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

NOTE THE SWELLED EDGE



DIAMOND EDGE GRAPE FRUIT KNIVES

Gems of the cutler's art these knives are bought freely because of their novelty and their evident utility. An inexpensive present for the hostess.

The blades of these knives are made of the finest Thos. Firth & Sons English cutlery steel. The handles are black rubber-oid and shaped to fit the hand. They were designed by a noted chef and will be found the most satisfactory knife made for dissecting grape fruit.

No. 9GF—Curved blade. Each	\$0.50
No. 6GF—Straight blade. Each50

DON'T SPOIL A GOOD GRAPE FRUIT

by trying to dig it out with a dull knife or the edge of a spoon. Secure one of these fruit knives, prepare the grape fruit properly, and then it will be a delight to eat it. These knives are quite inexpensive, although of the high-

est quality and will make a very acceptable Christmas present at an exceedingly moderate cost.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

The Gimlet



No.
1081½

Each
\$6.50

Hitch this **Electric Lamp**

up to the **Current**
on Christmas Morning

And see the happy smile it will produce on your wife's face. This Candelabra has a fancy embossed brushed brass standard 10-inch opal roughed glass dome, decorated with small blue flowers; has socket for one bulb (bulb not included), complete with silk cord and socket.

Height over all, 18 inches.

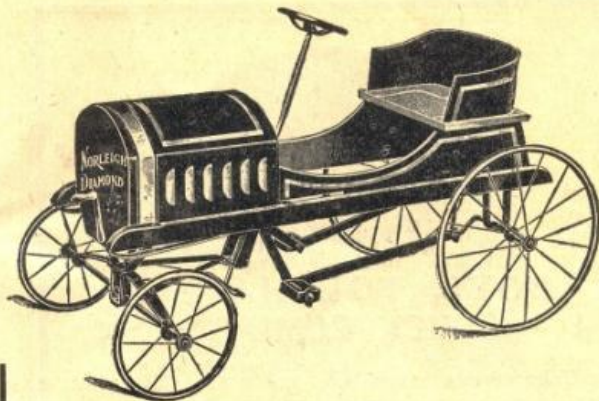
*Come In
and Inspect
Our
Full Line.*

THERE IS NOTHING

that will give a more cheerful aspect to a room than a well-shaded electric stand lamp. This is a Christmas present that will certainly be appreciated by any reasonable person. Be sure to put this lamp on your list and don't wait until the last minute to order it.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"



GIVE YOUR BOY AN AUTOMOBILE

Not a Gasoline Car but the Foot Propelling kind. It will make him healthy and develop his muscles. This car is strongly made and well braced; the gear, braces and wheels are made of wrought steel. Has large wheels, with $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch rubber tires. It is finely painted, good looking and easy running.

No. 1.—Automobile. Each.....\$6.75

IRON WAGONS ARE ALL RIGHT

for those who are still in the wagon class, but there are a few children who have reached the automobile stage. They don't want iron wagons—they want *real* automobiles. So here you are. And it only takes a little foot power and the vivid imagination of childhood to put the propeller of this vehicle in the same class with the driver of a six-cylinder Packard, a Pierce Arrow or a Chalmers.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

The Gimlet



BOYS, YOU HAVE A KICK COMING

Unless Santa remembers you with a Diamond Brand Rugby Foot Ball. The case of this Foot Ball is made of good quality Pebble Calf Leather. The Bladder is made of Pure Gum Rubber. It is made especially for hard usage. If Santa leaves you the "Diamond Brand" Ball you will know he is posted on where to get the best goods. If he don't know that the "Diamond" is the best kind write him a letter and tell him so.

No. 101—Foot Ball. Each.....\$2.00

THE BOYS OF TO-DAY

are the men of to-morrow. Boys with strong lungs and muscles of steel make good men. There is no training like foot ball for the rough and tumble of life. We don't want our boys to be mollycoddles, because after a while when they go out into the world they will find that they will have to take part in many a stiff scrimmage. The sports of youth help make better men, not only in brawn and muscle, but in the mental attitude of taking and giving good hard knocks cheerfully and without any personal ill feeling.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"



KEEP WARM—OUR LAP ROBES WILL HELP

This illustration shows our No. 400 48x60-inch single plush robe. Front has a large red and green floral offering beautifully placed on a dark brown center background, with old gold and brown border effect. Black back. All edges bound. This is a well made, popular priced robe.

Each.....\$3.75

We can furnish cheaper, also more expensive robes. Come in and let us show you our entire assortment.

OF COURSE WHEN OUR FOREFATHERS

first came to this country they used to wrap themselves up in blankets or quilts when they went to town in the old farm wagon. But there have been a good many fine crops since those days, and now you and I drive to town in a buggy and keep warm with one of these handsome lap robes. A lap robe would make a very serviceable and sensible Christmas present. It is nice to snuggle up on a cold day under a warm lap robe—Are you next, brother?

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

The Gimlet



A SUBSTANTIAL PRESENT

This fine watch has open face, gilt dial. Case carries a ten-year guarantee. Is pull-out pendant set. Has jewel movement and is a perfect timekeeper. Fully warranted.

	Each
No. CG6FG—No. 6 size.....	\$5.50
No. CG12FNG—No. 12 size.....	5.50
No. CG16FG—No. 16 size.....	5.50

THERE WAS A TIME

when watches were made all by hand, and they were an expensive luxury. But in these days the very best watches are made by machinery. They are manufactured in enormous quantities and therefore are sold at a surprisingly low cost. With so many good cheap watches on the market it is simply a waste of money to buy the expensive kind. I have carried a cheap watch myself for ten years and it is still keeping splendid time and looks just as good as ever.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"



HERE IS THE LATEST IN KITCHEN UTENSILS

Why use the old-fashioned tin Steamer when you can get new and up-to-date enameled ones? This Steamer has seamless body, white enameled perforated inset and is suitable for cooking all manner of meats, vegetables and puddings by steam.

	Each
No. 900F.—Shamrock Green Color . . .	\$1.25
No. 900BB.—Bluebelle Color	1.25
No. 900L.—Thistle Color	1.25

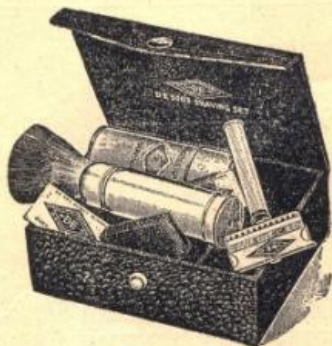
THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE

In enameled wares is something remarkable. We can now have enameled ware made in almost any color. Our Shamrock line is mottled green, our Bluebelle is blue, and the Thistle line is a blend that will remind you of the thistles of Scotland. We carry a full and complete line in all these colors and can send you any utensil in the enameled ware line.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

The Gimlet



FOR FATHER, SON OR BROTHER

We suggest a Diamond Edge shaving outfit. This set comprises one Diamond Edge Safety Razor with twelve blades, one collapsible shaving brush, one stick of shaving soap in nickel container. The case is made of black imitation seal, velvet lined, with compartments for each article.

The Diamond Edge Razor is the best of its kind and fully guaranteed.

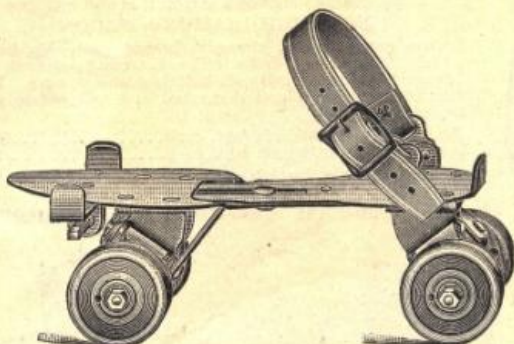
No. DE500/3—Each.....\$3.00

HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED

that when you start out the day with a nice, close, clean shave that everybody you meet remarks how well you are looking? There is no better advertisement than a well shaved face. If you are getting old it is all the more important that you should shave every day and make the best of the appearances that you have left. Just try it out. Shave every day for a week and see if your family and neighbors do not remark on your improved appearance.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"



FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

Here is a fine ball bearing steel wheel Skate, just the kind you need for fast and easy skating. Has extension foot plate so it will fit any size shoe up to 10½ inches. Boys' patterns have straps like cut, while the girl's skate has full leather heel strap.

No. S5—For boys, per pair.....	\$2.00
No. S6—For girls, per pair.....	2.00

IN THESE DAYS

of concrete and granitoid streets and sidewalks it is only natural that there should be a great demand for roller skates. As the song goes, "Everybody's Doing It"—skating. You had better mail or telephone your order for a pair of these ball bearing, steel wheel skates. You will find the quality entirely satisfactory.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

The Gimlet

THIS WAGON IS MADE FOR HARD KNOCKS

We can furnish cheaper wagons if you want that kind, but if you are looking for a boy's wagon that will last, buy this

NORLEIGH DIAMOND WAGON

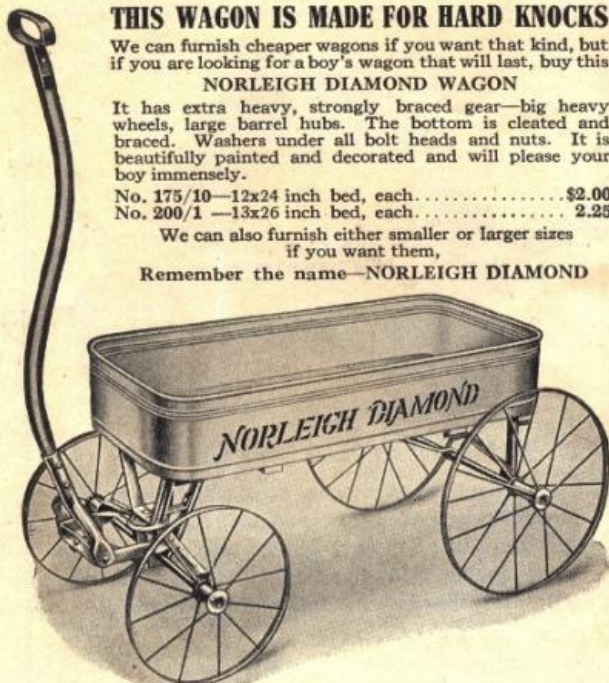
It has extra heavy, strongly braced gear—big heavy wheels, large barrel hubs. The bottom is cleated and braced. Washers under all bolt heads and nuts. It is beautifully painted and decorated and will please your boy immensely.

No. 175/10—12x24 inch bed, each.....\$2.00

No. 200/1 —13x26 inch bed, each..... 2.25

We can also furnish either smaller or larger sizes
if you want them,

Remember the name—NORLEIGH DIAMOND



THE TROUBLE WITH SOME IRON WAGONS

has been that they were poorly made—made to sell and not for use. We had many calls for a first class, strong, serviceable wagon, and we had one manufactured to supply the demand. Our NORLEIGH-DIAMOND wagon is gotten up not to sell at a low price, but to give thorough satisfaction in the using. Just call on our dealer in your town and look over these wagons. If he happens to be out, ask him to order a sample lot. M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

**No. D7—Norleigh
Diamond Sewing
Machine**

\$35.00

Complete with a full set of attachments and ten-year guarantee.

Buy your wife a Sewing Machine for Christmas and let it be a good one.

This machine is ball bearing throughout. The drop head works automatically. The woodwork is the finest quarter sawed oak with a piano polish. The attachments are the latest improved.



This is a fine looking, substantially made machine. It has no superior in sewing efficiency, lasting qualities or ease of operation.

Come in and see it.

OF COURSE I KNOW

that in the old days a first-class sewing machine cost about \$65.00—but that was on account of the high expense of selling them through traveling agents. In these days when sewing machines are sold under a less expensive selling plan, you can secure just as good a machine for \$35.00 as you could in the old days for \$65.00. These machines are fully guaranteed. You could not buy a better machine at any price. If your dealer does not carry them, have him order one sent direct to you from us, by express.

M. K.

'DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE'

FOR OUTDOOR WEAR



During the Cold
Winter Months this
is just what you need

The main portion of this Jacket is made of best English whipcord, tan color. Lined throughout with velvet tanned drab suede kid. Has kid leather sleeves with wool knit wristlets; also knitted wool sweater pattern neck. Has three outside pockets.

No. 701M—Knit Neck Jacket, each.....\$3.00

WE ARE ALL DRESSING

more sanely now than in the olden times, when we only knew how to wear red flannel underclothes. The modern way of dressing is to wear light weight clothes in the house and then when one goes out of doors in very cold weather to put on extra clothing. That is the way the Russians have learned to dress after living for centuries in their cold climate.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

This is the Latest Thing in Oil Lamps

Made of rich imitation crystal cut glass. All metal parts nickel plated. Has mammoth single wick burner. Diameter of shade 10 inches; height over all, 17 inches.



If you are looking for lamps why not be up to date and buy the all-glass kind that looks like cut glass?

No. 234.—Each. \$5.00

THERE ARE STILL SOME PEOPLE

who prefer oil lamps to electricity. I myself believe that electricity is just a little hard on the eyes. I have noticed that students and others who work for a long time by artificial light seem to prefer a good oil burner. This lamp is showy. It looks like cut glass. I wouldn't mind having one myself for Christmas.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"



Diamond Edge Solid Handle Knives and Forks

The Knives have extremely thin and flexible blades and will be found sharper and more pliable than most silver plated knives.

Both Knives and Forks are Triple Silver Plated. They are burnished by hand.

The bolsters are attractive; all blades are cimeter swaged.

We stand behind and guarantee this Knife Set in every way.

**No. 120.—Per Set of Six
Knives and Six Forks. . \$4.50**

WHAT SHALL I GIVE FOR CHRISTMAS?

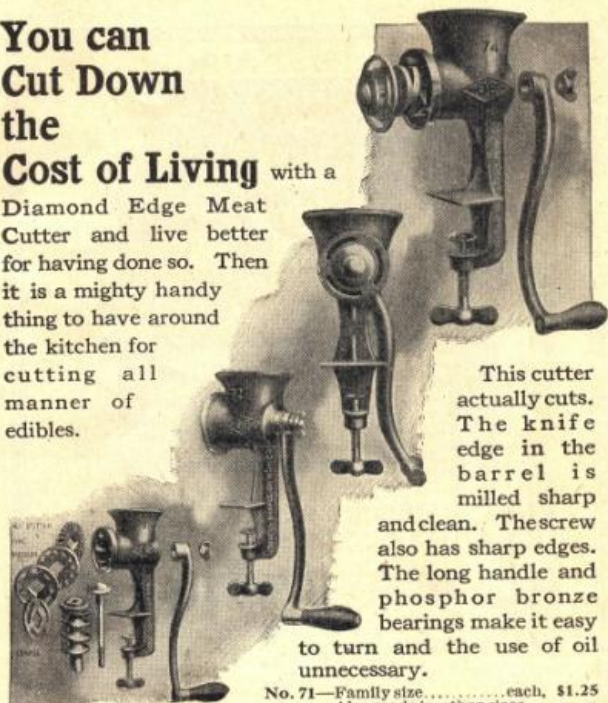
That is always a problem. There is no neater and more satisfactory present than a set of handsome plated steel knives and forks. Whenever you make a Christmas present of anything bearing the **DIAMOND EDGE** brand you can be sure that it is the very best of its kind and therefore, like the thing of beauty, it will be a joy forever. Then three times a day the recipient of your present will be reminded of you as he enjoys his daily bread.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

**You can
Cut Down
the
Cost of Living** with a

Diamond Edge Meat
Cutter and live better
for having done so. Then
it is a mighty handy
thing to have around
the kitchen for
cutting all
manner of
edibles.



This cutter
actually cuts.
The knife
edge in the
barrel is
milled sharp

and clean. The screw
also has sharp edges.
The long handle and
phosphor bronze
bearings make it easy
to turn and the use of oil
unnecessary.

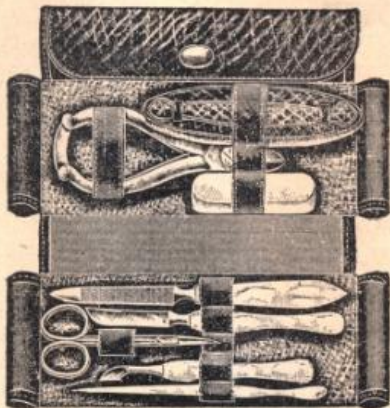
No. 71—Family size.....each, \$1.25
Also made in other sizes.

DON'T YOU GET TIRED

of the same old fried food every day? What's the matter with making your wife a present of a DIAMOND EDGE meat cutter and a book of new recipes so that she will be in a position to give you a change in diet? All of us do like a change occasionally. These meat cutters will open up an entirely new line of dishes, all palatable and delicious. You could not give a better Christmas present.
M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

The Gimlet



A NICE MANICURE SET MAKES A GOOD CHRISTMAS PRESENT for a YOUNG LADY

The Set shown above contains eight pieces: Nail Buffer, Nail Nipper, Stick Nail Enamel, Nail File, Corn Knife, Manicure Scissors, Cuticle Knife and Hoof Stick. All Instruments are the finest quality. Cutting edges are carefully ground. All have white bone handles. They are packed in a Grain Seal Leather Flexible Case.

No. 125W.—Each\$5.00

IT IS ONLY NATURAL

that you should send a manicure set as a Christmas present to a fastidious and refined friend. Doing so will not suggest that his hands require attention, but rather that he is accustomed to using such articles. As the country has grown in luxury it is surprising to note how the sale of manicure sets has increased. We have a very complete stock in all varieties and at all prices. See our large catalogue at your nearest dealer.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

Why Let Father Break His Neck in the Dark

When one of these Pocket Flash Lights will light the way for him? They are invaluable around the house, barn or garage.

Cases made of nickel plated brass, equipped with Tungsten bulb and high power battery.



No. 6961.—Size, $2\frac{7}{8} \times 1\frac{3}{8} \times \frac{3}{4}$ inches. Each.....\$1.50



No. 6962.—Size, $2\frac{7}{8} \times 2 \times \frac{3}{4}$ inches. Each.....\$2.00

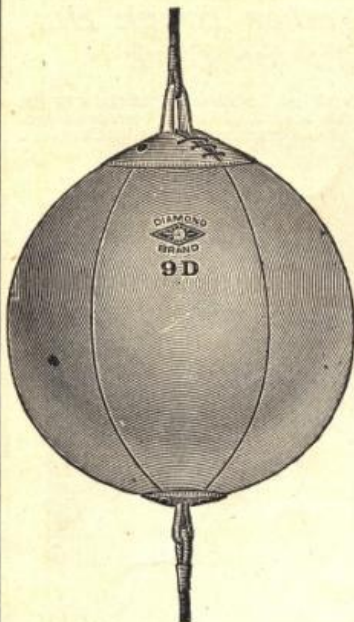
WHEN ONE IS CALLED OUT AT NIGHT

there is nothing like one of these little "EVEREADY" pocket flash lights. They are especially convenient if there happens to be a burglar in the house. Under such circumstances some people immediately turn on the electric light and that makes them a target for the burglar. What all of us want in this world is more light, and we want it in spots—where it is needed—just as the "EVEREADY" pocket flash light gives it. Then on a night automobile trip these little lights are indispensable. They are compact in size, but always ready to serve when the button is pushed.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

The Gimlet



THIS IS A DOUBLE END STRIKING BAG

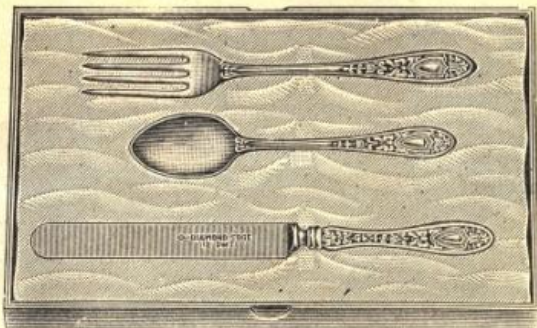
One end of cord fastens to the ceiling while the other fastens to the floor. Can be quickly put up or taken down. With this style bag you do not need a platform, and because of this feature it is the ideal bag for the bedroom.

No. 9D. Made of mocha brown tanned soft sheepskin leather, lined with white drill, comes complete with pure gum rubber bladder, suspending cord and elastic floor cord. Each ... \$1.50

IN BAD WEATHER

you can't take exercise out of doors, but there is no better way to develop quickness of eye and of foot than to use a punching bag at home. In these days when efficiency is so much needed to win in the battle of life there is nothing like a clear eye, a quick hand and a lively step. All these things count in the game. Say, brother, do you know that when you return home from the office all tired out the best thing for you to do is not to lounge in an easy chair, but to get your blood into circulation. Just try it out with a striking bag and see how much better you will feel the next day. M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"



For the Baby—A Child's Set

This illustration shows one of our most popular patterns. Made of 18% nickel silver base, and quadruple plated. Set consists of knife, fork and spoon.

No. F100. With hollow handle knife, per set. **\$2.00**

No. R100. With solid handle knife, per set **\$1.50**

ALL CHILDREN NATURALLY ARE SAVAGES:

They are just little animals. They must be civilized by training. There is no better way to train a child in correct table manners than by giving it a child's set, consisting of knife, fork and spoon, of its own and then carefully showing it how they should be used. You can't start training children too early. If you don't they will reproach you in later years when they find that their manners are not as good as those of their associates.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

The Gimlet



DON'T GET COLD FEET

Buy a Diamond Hot Blast Heater and you can keep your feet warm in any temperature. For Buggy, Wagon or Automobile. It makes riding more comfortable. This heater is Asbestos lined to prevent danger of fire, the outside is covered with *Green Plush*. Has heavy Galvanized Coal Receptacle. One small Cake of Diamond Coal will keep this heater warm for from 12 to 15 hours.

No. DHB—Length 13½ inches; each.....	\$2.50	No. DHBA—Length 20 inches; each.....	\$3.00
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WHY NOT BE COMFORTABLE?

Life is short at best, and cold feet are not only disagreeable, but they sometimes lead to pneumonia, and pneumonia leads elsewhere. Once upon a time I used to light a lantern and put it under the blanket when I took a long drive. But that method is old-fashioned and out-of-date compared with modern foot warmers. You remember the saying of the celebrated German doctor—"Keep your head cool, your bowels open and your feet warm." That is the secret of health.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

WHY NOT
A
GO-CART
FOR
THE NEW
BABY?



The illustration shows a mighty fine collapsible Cart. It can be opened or closed with one motion—just like opening or closing your pocket-knife. It is a strong, well-made and beautiful looking cart, one your wife will be proud of. Has rubber-tired wheels and can be furnished in either black or green trim.

No. 060.—Go-Cart. Each.....\$6.00

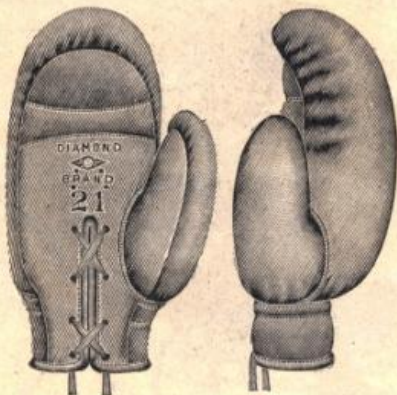
BABY CARRIAGES WERE THE THING

in the old days, but the old perambulator (as they were called) was entirely too large and awkward. The modern folding go-cart has almost altogether taken the place of the old-fashioned baby carriage. What a nice Christmas present one of these go-carts would make. Just ring up your dealer by telephone and if he does not happen to have them in stock tell him to order one sent to you direct by express.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

The Gimlet



No. 21 DIAMOND BRAND BOXING GLOVES

Are stuffed with genuine curled hair. This keeps properly distributed at all times and does not lump up. Have genuine California Napa kid back, olive green cover. This leather keeps soft and pliable. Have improved grip to keep the hand from cramping. They are well made throughout and will withstand very severe usage.

Per set of four.....\$1.75

THE MANLY ART OF BOXING

will never go out of fashion. There have been all kinds of new inventions, but boxing to-day is just as popular with manly boys as it was five hundred years ago. If your boys are made of the right kind of stuff they will want a set of boxing gloves for Christmas. Just think of all the fun they will have pounding each other if they find a set waiting for them Christmas morning.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"



FOR MOTHER OR GRANDMOTHER

A fine Diamond Carpet Sweeper will be just the thing. This Sweeper has nickel plated trimmings, finely finished woodwork, roller bearings, reversible bail, best quality bristle brush and silk braid furniture protector. Made in golden oak, mahogany and quartered sycamore as desired.

No. D—Each\$3.50

THE OLD-FASHIONED BROOM

Is a relic of barbarism. Can you remember the days when your mother wrapped her hair in a towel, grabbed the broom and got busy? That was about the time that you and I hiked out for parts unknown. How different it is these days when the dust is all kept down by the use of a DIAMOND carpet sweeper. Surely! surely! times have changed and conditions are better now than they were.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"



THIS NORLEIGH DIAMOND VELOCIPEDE

Is a whole lot better than the ordinary, everyday Velocipede you are in the habit of seeing. Why buy a light, flimsy, hard running affair when you can get a strong, serviceable, easy running Velocipede by paying a very little more?

Has large hubs, heavy frame, rat trap pedals, bicycle saddle, detachable handle bar, large rubber tires and is handsomely finished.

No. 11—16-inch Front Wheel.	Each	\$5.50
No. 12—20-inch Front Wheel.	Each	6.50
No. 13—24-inch Front Wheel.	Each	7.50

BEFORE THE DAYS OF BICYCLES CAME

the little kids must ride velocipedes. How could you make that little curly-haired, blue-eyed fellow happier than by having him find a new NORLEIGH DIAMOND velocipede at the foot of his bed when he wakes up on Christmas morning? He will remember his first velocipede as long as he lives, just as you and I remember the first pair of red-topped, copper-toed boots we ever wore.

M. K.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"



The Gimlet



NAME REGISTERED

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO CLOSER RELATIONS BETWEEN THE RETAIL HARDWARE MERCHANT AND HIS CUSTOMERS.

Vol. V

NOVEMBER, 1912

No. 10

Address all Communications to

MIKE KINNEY, Teamster and Editor
c/o NORVELL-SHAPLEIGH HARDWARE CO.
ST. LOUIS, U. S. A.

Subscription Price — — — — 25 Cents per Annum

The Origin and History of Christmas

Being an essay compiled from the Encyclopedia Britannica, Encyclopedia Americana and other similar authorities by

Mike Kinney

Teamster and Editor.

THIS is a Christmas *Gimlet*. I started out to write something more or less amusing on the subject of Christmas, but when I read up on this great Christian festival I learned so many things I did not know before—

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

The Gimlet

so many *interesting* things, so many things I should have known long ago—that I decided that probably the thousands of readers of *The Gimlet* would like to have me tell them some of the things I have discovered about Christmas.

Before we start on Christmas I want to address just a few words to the NEW readers of *The Gimlet*. About 50,000 new names have been added to *The Gimlet* list in the past few weeks—*customers of our customers*—making the present circulation of this bibliograph, in round figures, 100,000. *The Gimlet* is written by an alleged teamster. The author of *The Gimlet* claims to be a teamster because for many years he has been a *driver*, a *puller* and a *hauler*. *The Gimlet* started in the form of “ginger” letters for hardware salesmen. Then, being in the line of evolution, it was mailed to hardware dealers. Now hundreds of hardware dealers are sending *The Gimlet* to thousands of their good friends and customers, one of which you may be whom.

Now, brothers and sisters, grown-ups and kids, just one word in getting acquainted. Don't take either me or my writings *too seriously*. If occasionally you happen to strike a new idea, pass it along. Just stop and think that if each of the present subscribers to *The Gimlet* would hand this booklet to one other person, then, instead of it being read by 100,000 persons, it would be read by 200,000 people in all walks of life.

I will tell you a secret. It is the real ambition of the author of *The Gimlet* to have his writings read once a month in little family gatherings. If five persons hear *The Gimlet* read once a month then I will be reaching 500,000 people with every issue. I am not try-

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ing to reform the world. I have no theories. *The Gimlet* is just a little instrument with a point, and its object is to amuse and inform.

I never did like to explain. Explanations are always tiresome, and besides that, they never

really explain. Therefore, suppose we just let *The Gimlet* and its author slide with these few feeble remarks. As you read *The Gimlet* from month to month perhaps we will become better acquainted. It has been well said that *all literature is a confession*, and possibly from my monthly confessions you will learn to know more of my own weaknesses than I know myself. At any rate, if you will read *The Gimlet* in your little family circle it will start discussions. Argument means thought, and to learn to think is the best education.

The Derivation of the word Christmas

The word "Christmas" comes from "*Criste-masse*," meaning Christ's mass or holy day. The French word for Christmas is "*Noël*;" the German is "*Weihnachtsfest*;" Old English and Scandinavian, "*Yule*," and Anglo-Saxon, "*Geol*."

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Christmas is a festival of the Christian church, observed annually on the 25th of December, in memory of the birth of Christ. The festival proper begins on the evening of the 24th day of December, called Christmas eve, and continues until Epiphany, on the 6th of January, the whole period being called Christmas-tide, but is more particularly observed on the 25th of December, which is called Christmas Day or simply *Christmas*. Its celebration was formerly forbidden by the Puritans, but it has been observed for ages by all Christian denominations. The giving of gifts at Christmas is one of the peculiarities of this great festival. In studying the subject I find that Christmas, like many of the other religious festivals, comes to us down through the ages from pagan festivals that antedate the Christian era.

Christmas is one of the most important festivals in history because it celebrates the birth of one who, by His life and teachings, changed the entire thought and philosophy of the world. Therefore, children, draw a little closer and we will cast our imaginations back to the conditions which existed on earth almost 2000 years ago, when Christ was born in a manger in Bethlehem in Judea.

The World when Christ was Born

Politically, the world was then passing through an epoch of disintegration and decadence. Rome under the Emperors, as she attained the zenith of her apparent power and splendor, was, in fact, sinking to the depths of degradation. The genius of Julius Caesar, the astute policy of Augustus, could not delay the ever-deepening degeneracy which revealed itself in its worst colors in the reign of Tiberius. *The great god Pan was dead.* The gods of Rome and Greece, that

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had ruled the minds of men for centuries, were no longer respected or worshiped. The earth had lost its ideals of artistic beauty and on all sides, with the rich and poor alike, there was nothing but gross materialism.

The historian, Tacitus, has described the times as being "rich in disasters; terrible in battles; rent by seditions; savage even in its peace."

Elsewhere we read, "The murder of princes, the outbreaks of rebellion and civil war, the prevalence of alarming rumors, the decimation of the noblest families by spies and informers, the conflagrations of temples and cities, the oppression of the provinces by the greed and cruelty of legates and procurators, the horrible degradation of private morals, the awful tragedies of impurity and bloodshed which were enacted in various courts, the multiplications of banishments, ever the terror of famines, storms and earthquakes, combined to render the early years of the Christian era a period of gloom and anguish."

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The Ancient Beliefs had Lost their Hold



Meanwhile the Religious condition of the world was no less unsatisfactory. Throughout the Roman Empire the belief in the popular mythology had died away and, while a few of the noblest spirits took refuge in the hard and despairing dogmas of Stoicism, the mass of the people was plunged in practical Atheism or abject Superstition. Such religion as there was among the people usually took the form of Egyptian and Phrygian worships, which were often connected with the vilest immorality. In Judea the dominant religion consisted of scrupulous devotion to the petty external ordinances of the Oral law. Thus at the epoch of Christ's birth the Heathen world had sunk into practical Atheism and the Jewish world was deeply corroded by formalism and hypocrisy. In the heathen world religion had almost ceased to exist and in the Jewish world it was tainted at its source."

Such, children, was the condition of the world when Jesus was born.

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The Name Jesus at first a Title

Now, let me quote from some of the things I have read of the gentle Galilean: "The word '*Jesus*' is the form assumed in Latin by the Greek '*Iesous*,' which is the transliterated form of the Hebrew '*Jehoshua*,' '*Jeshua*' or '*Joshua*,' meaning '*Jehovah is salvation*.' In one or other of its forms the name is found in many passages in the Old Testament.

"The word '*Christ*' was not originally a name but a *title*. In the Gospels we scarcely ever read of '*Christ*' but always of '*The Christ*.' It was only after the Resurrection that the title gradually passed into a *name* and '*Jesus Christ*,' or later still—'*Christ Jesus*,' became one designation. The Greek word means 'anointed,' and is a translation of the Hebrew '*Messiah*.' The designation of '*The Christ*' given to *Jesus* shows that His followers saw in Him the long promised *Messiah* of Judaism, and the rapidity with which the title developed into a name proves the strength and permanence of this conviction."

An Error as to the Year Christ was Born

As I read many books in studying up on the origin of Christmas, I was surprised to learn that the exact year of the nativity of Christ is not known. It seems that critics of all schools are verging more and more towards the acceptance of 4 B. C. as the probable year of Christ's birth. Our present era was fixed (525 A. D.) by a learned Scythian, *Dionysius Exiguus*, who was an abbot at Rome and died about 550. But now it seems that the good abbot made a mistake of at least four years.

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We are left with two data, which furnish us with an approximation to the accurate date of Christ's birth. One of these is the death of *Herod the Great*. *Josephus* tells us that he died thirty-seven years after he had been declared king by the Romans. Now, it has been figured out by contemporary historians that *Herod* died between 4 B. C. and 3 B. C. Further, we know that there was an eclipse of the moon on March 12th, 4 B. C., on which night *Herod* ordered some Jewish rabbis burnt, and that he was dead before the *Passover*, which took place on April 12th, 4 B. C. *Christ* must, therefore, have been born before February, 4 B. C. Again, *St. Luke* tells us that *John the Baptist* began to preach in the fifteenth year of *Tiberius*.

The Day and Month Unknown

As to the day and month of the Nativity, it is certain that they can never be recovered. They were absolutely unknown to the early fathers, and there is scarcely one month of the year which has not been fixed upon as probable by modern critics. The date now observed—December 25—cannot be traced further back than the middle of the fourth century. It was adopted by *St. Jerome*, *St. Augustine* and others.

The visit of the *Magi* is known as *Epiphany* or the manifestation of *Christ* to the Gentiles. It rests on the sole authority of *St. Matthew*, but there is no feature in his account which is out of keeping with known events and possibilities. The *Magi*—*Persian* or *Chaldean* astrologers—were a class extremely common at that epoch, and under different names were repeatedly mentioned by the contemporary historians and satirists.

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They were accustomed to wander to various countries and to interest themselves in horoscopes. That they should have been deeply interested in any sidereal phenomenon such as the Star of Bethlehem is in accordance with what we know of their studies. These were the Wise Men who were guided by the star to the manger of the Saviour.

Jesus was One of the Common People



The childhood and youth of Jesus was spent not only in the obscurity of a despised and provincial village, but also in the manual toils of an humble trade. As a carpenter He worked with His hands for His own support and that of His mother and brethren. All of us who have studied the life of the "*Man of Sorrows*" must have had our imaginations stirred by the deepsilence of those long, unknown years

in which He consecrated the common lot of toil and poverty and thereby showed the inherent dignity of manhood and the intrinsic sacredness of human life.

The Expectation of a Messiah

It was no doubt due to the darkness of the religious and political horizon, and to the sense of despair and weariness which was prevalent in the hearts alike of Jews and Gentiles, that the Messianic hope, fostered by generations of prophets, gained a powerful hold on the hearts of all sincere Israelites and even found its expres-

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sion in secular literature. *Virgil*, *Tacitus* and *Suetonius*, no less than *Josephus*, showed that the thoughts of the civilized world were turned to the East in the expectation of some *Great Deliverer*, but the character of their hope was utterly mistaken.

The State of the Early Christians

So, children, when all of us are celebrating with our gifts to each other, with Christmas cards, with Christmas trees, with religious services, with lighted altars, sacred music and songs, with priests robed in glittering vestments, the birth of the *Prince of Peace*, we will better appreciate the miracle of the development of His beautiful ideals from the hopeless gloom of the pagan world if we will remember how the early Christians were hated and despised. Their beliefs at first were not understood. Their religion was considered one of the lowest of superstition. They were supposed to be either knaves or fools. No epithet was too contemptuous to be hurled at a Christian.

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Secular Accounts of the Christians

Tacitus tells us that the founder of Christianity had been put to death in the reign of Tiberius, by Pontius Pilate, and that his religion, "*a deadly superstition*," though crushed for a time, burst forth again not only throughout Judea, in which it sprung up, but even in Rome, the common reservoir for all the streams of wickedness and infamy.

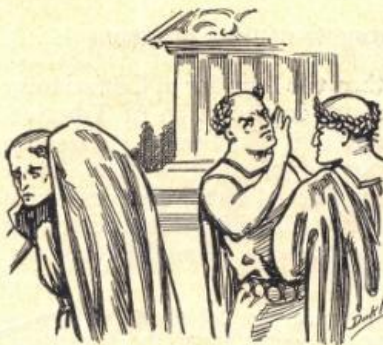
Nero diverted from himself the odium of the burning of Rome by charging the crime upon the Christians. Suetonius held the same opinions. He regarded Nero as a "public benefactor" because he punished the Christians, "*a class of men of a strange and pestilent superstition.*"

The younger Pliny wrote the Emperor Tragan asking for advice on how to deal with Christians. He writes that "*they live innocent lives and that he was unable to establish against them any crime beyond that of the belief*," which, like his contemporaries, he regarded as a perverse and extravagant superstition.

Christmas not Celebrated till the Fourth Century

It is interesting to observe that Christmas was not celebrated in the first centuries of the Christian Church, as it was the Christian usage in general to celebrate the *death* of remarkable persons rather than their birth. The death of the martyr *Stephen*, and the massacre of the innocents at Bethlehem, had been already long celebrated. *It was not until the Fourth Century that a*

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feast was established in memory of the birth of the Saviour. In the fifth century the Western Church ordered it to be celebrated forever on the day of the old Roman feast of the death of Sol, though no certain

knowledge of the day of Christ's birth existed. Among the German and Celtic tribes the winter solstice was considered an important point of the year and they held their chief festival of Yule to commemorate the return of the burning wheel.

Our Inheritance from Pagan Times

As a matter of fact, the holly, the mistletoe, the Yule log and the wassail bowl relate more to paganism than to Christianity. But the Christmas tree has been traced back to the Romans. It went from Germany to Great Britain, and has become almost universal in the United States where the customs of so many nationalities meet and gradually blend in the melting pot of our own country.

The Observation of Christmas in England

In England it was the custom on Christmas eve, after the usual devotions were over, to light large candles and throw on the hearth a huge log called the Yule log or Christmas block. At

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Court and in the houses of the wealthy an officer, named the Lord of Misrule, was appointed to superintend the revels, and in Scotland a similar functionary used to be appointed under the title of the Abbot of Unreason, till the year 1555, when the office was

abolished by Act of Parliament. The reign of the Lord of Misrule began on *All Hallow eve* and lasted until *Candlemas Day*. The favorite pastimes over which he presided were gaming, music, conjuring, dipping for nuts and apples, dancing, hot cockles, blind-man's buff, fool plough, etc., and various Christian preachers (as, for instance, *St. Bernard*) have remonstrated with their flocks for paying too great attention to the festive character of the season and too little attention to its more solemn aspects.



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The favorite dishes for breakfast and supper at this season were the boar's head, with an apple or orange in the mouth, and, set off with rosemary, plum pudding and mince pies. The houses and churches were decked with evergreens, especially with mistletoe, to which a traditional sacredness has attached since the days of the Druids.

Have you learned Something New about Christmas?

Thus ends my little article on the history of *Christmas*. Maybe some families will lay aside this booklet and read it Christmas night while the bright flames are crackling between the logs on the hearth and the cold winter wind is rattling the window panes. If you do read this *Gimlet* to your family on Christmas eve, I hope that as your children sit around the fire in a wide circle and watch the darting flames and the moving shadows, that they will think of all the other children 'way back through the long ages who

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celebrated this same feast of happiness and joy. I hope that they will not only think of the Christian children who have lived and died within the past 2000 years, but that they will let their thoughts wander back even beyond them, to the pagan children of Rome and Greece who celebrated this same festival, and that their thoughts will go back even still farther to the children of the wild tribes who lived deep in the forests, but who in the dead of winter also celebrated the day with fire and warmth, with laughter and gentle greetings and love and blessings. Because, dear children, you know that even from the beginning all of us come out of the darkness from the Great Father and Source of things and each one of us in his turn will go back to Him.



I want each and every one of you to feel that you are a part of the whole—of the ages that are past and of the ages that are to come. We who are living now stand as links binding the forgotten past to the unknown future. Did you ever think that looking backward into the *past* we are *the oldest people in the world*, but that looking

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forward into the *future* we are the *youngest*, because we are the last to have arrived on the scene? Through us the Christmas spirit of joy and love will pass on to our successors as we have received it from those who have gone before.

In the Hawaiian Islands they have a musical greeting, and the word is "Aloha." It means *love and greetings to you*. Then, when an Hawaiian wishes to make the greeting still stronger, he cries, "Aloha Nui," which means, *the best of all love and greetings I give to you*. Then they have a garland of flowers called the "lei," which they place around the necks of their friends.

So this little *Gimlet* bears to you *Christmas Greetings*. It brings love and blessings and good luck, and all kinds of wishes for your happiness and welfare.

It is not out of place that we who deal in tools should write of the Master who was a carpenter and worked with his hands.

Mike Kinney

Teamster and Editor.



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A HYMN FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

Hark! how all the welkin rings,
Glory to the King of kings!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
Universal nature say,
Christ the Lord is born to-day.

Christ, by highest Heaven adored;
Christ, the Everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a Virgin's womb;
Veil'd in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail, th' Incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with men t' appear,
Jesus, our Immanuel here!

Hail! the heavenly Prince of Peace!
Hail! the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.

—Charles Wesley.

At Christmas I no more desire a rose
Than wish a snow in May's new-fangled mirth;
But like of each thing that in season grows.

—Shakespeare.

At Christmas play and make good cheer,
For Christmas comes but once a year.

—Thomas Tusser.

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"Shepherds, rejoice, lift up your eyes,
And send your fears away;
News from the region of the skies!
Salvation's born to-day.

"Jesus, the God whom angels fear,
Comes down to dwell with you;
To-day He makes His entrance here,
But not as monarchs do.

"No gold, nor purple swaddling-bands,
Nor royal shining things;
A manger for His cradle stands
And holds the King of kings.

"Go, shepherds, where the Infant lies,
And see His humble throne:—
With tears of joy in all your eyes
Go, shepherds, kiss the Son."

Thus Gabriel sang: and straight around
The heavenly armies throng;
They tune their harps to lofty sound,
And thus conclude the song:

"Glory to God that reigns above,
Let peace surround the earth;
Mortals shall know their Maker's love,
At their Redeemer's birth."

Lord! and shall angels have their songs,
And men no tunes to raise?
O may we lose these useless tongues
When they forget to praise!

Glory to God that reigns above,
That pitied us forlorn!
We join to sing our Maker's love—
For there's a Saviour born.

—*Dr. Isaac Watts.*

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Tales Told in a Hardware Store

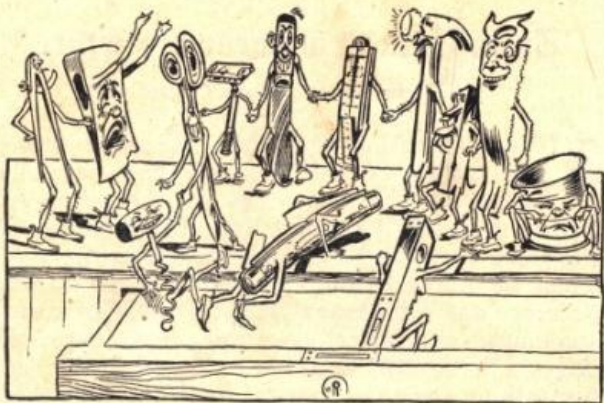
"'Twas the Night Before Christmas"

IT was Christmas eve in a hardware store. The owner of the business had carefully looked at the fastenings of the windows, barred the back door, and letting himself out of the front entrance he turned the key in the lock. Then he hurried home to help his better-half decorate the Christmas tree, fill the Christmas stockings, and after everything was done, to linger a little while with his good wife beside the fire talking over the many Christmas eves they had passed together.

Back of the counter in the store was a drawer in which worn out, defective and discarded hardware had been thrown. There were all sorts of articles in this drawer. No sooner had the merchant departed, than, strange to relate, all of these different items of hardware climbed out of the drawer and arranged themselves in a wide circle on the counter. They made all kinds of little noises as they moved about. There was the click of pocket knives and the ring of steel when one article happened to jostle another. You would scarcely believe it, my dear children, but these old battered tools laughed and talked just as human beings do, only they had a language all their own—a language that neither you nor I could understand. It seems that they had arranged to amuse each other on Christmas eve by telling stories, and, as my godmother happened to be a fairy, she repeated to me, so I could tell you in *The Gimlet*, just the stories that they told each other.

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After quite a little bustling about in getting themselves fixed, for all the world like a lot of children, an old battered Axe with a lot of nicks in his edge called on every one to be quiet. Then he turned to a pair of Bankers' Shears and said, "Will you tell us the first story?" These Bankers' Shears were long and slim, the blades must have been fully 12 inches in length. They showed that they had been used for many years and sharpened many times. With a little preliminary cough, the Bankers' Shears told his story as follows:

"Once upon a time, many years ago, when I was brand new, I was bought by a great merchant. He used to keep me lying on his desk. Sometimes he used me to cut coupons off his bonds, at other times to clip articles from the newspapers or magazines. So you see I was with him every

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working day and I heard a lot of things in his office that were very confidential. He didn't pay much attention to me lying there on his desk, but I listened closely to everything that was said, and, my! what a lot of stories I could tell about this merchant and his deals and all the people who came to see him. But, as this is Christmas eve, I am just going to tell you what happened *one* Christmas before I became too old and cranky and too loose in my joints to serve him any longer.



"This merchant was named Scraggs, and everybody thought he was an awfully tight-fisted old fellow. He used to drive many a hard bargain, and sometimes when he was in a hurry he was short and sharp in his talk. He always wanted to get everything done quickly and often in his haste he was not as kind and gentle as he might have been. But maybe that wasn't altogether his fault because he had a whole lot of things to do and, if he had allowed them, people would have consumed and wasted a great deal of his time. Everybody envied old Scraggs because they thought he had a lot of money. He lived in a fine house and had an automobile. The world called him successful.

"Well, on this Christmas eve all of his partners and all of the heads of departments of the business came into his office one by one, shook hands with him and wished him a Merry Christmas. Old Scraggs appeared to be in a very good humor, and he patted each one on the back, shook hands with him, and sent some word of greeting to

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his folks at home. Later on, when the big bell sounded the closing time, other employes came—men and women, girls and boys—and Scraggs wished each of them a Merry Christmas.

"After a while all were gone, the big office was empty except for Scraggs. He sat looking out of the window. His hand was very near to me—so near that I could have touched it. Scraggs was a hard old man. His eyebrows were straight and fierce. His large mouth would sometimes close with a snap like a steel trap. There were deep lines in his face and I know they were the lines of battle—the lines that come from many a hard fight. After a few minutes Scraggs rose and walked up and down the office. Now and then he whistled to himself. When he whistled that tune I knew his thoughts were far away. How quiet it was in the big office! All had hurried home to their families. Almost everybody carried Christmas packages. Every one had a present for some one else. Nobody had given old Scraggs any presents because he did not need any; they knew how rich he was, and you know when people have lots of things it's not a good idea to give them anything, because they might laugh at your little offering.

"Scraggs had watched all the employes leaving with their bundles and packages. In a little while he sat down again at his desk, and taking out a bunch of keys he unlocked the lower drawer on the left-hand side. Out of this drawer he took a tin box and with another key

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unlocked this. 'I guess,' said I to myself, 'he is going to look at some of his stocks and bonds. It will do him

good to see how rich he is.' But, my dear, you will scarcely believe me when I tell you that when he opened the tin box he took out a *small picture*. It was the picture of a little girl. The photograph was yellow with age. Scraggs laid the picture on his desk right next to me, under the light, and for a long, long time he sat gazing at it. He was as quiet as though he were dead, he hardly breathed,



and as I looked at him I saw that his face was drawn and that there were tears in his old eyes. At last he tenderly put the picture back in the tin box and locked it up again in his desk. He put on his overcoat and softly closed the door behind him as he left the store.

"I was on old Scraggs' desk for a number of years and every Christmas he did the same thing. Now, I say, wasn't that queer? I don't know, but I have often wondered who that little girl was. I guess after all Scraggs had his Christmas memories too."

When the Bankers' Shears had finished it was evident that his story had not made much of a hit, because there was so little to it—it *wasn't a bit exciting*. "What if old Scraggs did look at a faded photograph with tears in his eyes every Christmas eve! I guess he had a right to if he wanted to," remarked a pert Safety Razor with a twisted handle.

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"That story reminds me of another one," said a Pocket Knife with a worn stag handle, that once had four blades but two of them were now broken out. "I was once carried in the pocket of a merchant who was also the head of a great house. One day just before Christmas he was walking through the house when in one of the departments he noticed a gray-haired stenographer hard at work at her machine. He stopped and looked at her. Then he whispered to himself, 'By George, I believe it is *she*.' He went to the head of the department and inquired the name of this stenographer. The name evidently did not give him much information because she was a 'Mrs.' So he said to the head of the department, 'I wish you would make some excuse for asking Mrs. Wilson her name before she was married, and then come down to my office and tell me.' A little later the head of the department came down and said her name had been Annie Riggs. When the old man was alone he sat a long time at his desk thinking. He repeated to himself, 'Annie Riggs! Annie Riggs! Why, thirty years ago her father was one of the richest men in town and I used to be one of her beaux. What a pretty girl she was! I had lost all track of her. Yes, I did hear that she married and went west.'

"But why draw out the story? A lot of you are waiting to tell *your* stories and are more interested in your own stories than you are in mine. That night, without any warning, the old man again called her Annie Riggs. He had learned all about her and her children. His automobile was full of Christmas presents. You know I



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was right with him and it was funny to see the old man sitting in that little flat with gray-haired Annie Riggs arranging the Christmas gifts for the children. At first she was just a little afraid of him. You know *poor* people are the proudest people in the world, and she pretended not to like it a bit when he came with the flowers and the candy and all the toys for the children, besides a lot of good things to eat. But he just butted in, sat down and made himself at home, and told her that she had no right not to let him enjoy his Christmas in his own way even if she didn't like it."



"That story is all right," said a battered old Hammer, but "it's a bit sentimental, and I have had all the sentiment *pounded out of me.*"

"Well, I had a more exciting experience than any of these," said a Pocket Cork Screw with a very sporty look. "I was once carried by a big handsome man who had a little wife. This man was quite a fellow with the ladies. They used to jolly him along and make him think that he was the 'whole cheese.' His little wife was one of the quiet, patient kind and she just stood for it without making any complaint. One summer I was in his pocket at the seashore, and he and one of his lady friends were doing the lovey-dovey act on the piazza of the hotel just outside of one of the windows. After the lady had given him a line of Cleopatra talk he told her that he was up against it in having a wife without any *spirit*. 'She hasn't a bit of courage,' said he, 'and, I tell you, life is mighty monotonous for me.' His lady friend sympathized



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with him a whole lot and told him that such a fine man as he was should have an entirely different wife. Of course they didn't know it, but I happened to see the big fellow's wife sitting in the parlor just inside of the window and she heard every word that they said. She didn't say anything, but just sat there sewing as if nothing had happened.

"The next day I heard her ask her husband if he wouldn't like to take a sail, and with a manner as if he were making a great concession, he agreed to hire a boat and take her out. He could sail a boat all right and so they went alone. When they were about three miles from land the patient little wife looked up and said, 'John, I heard what you said to Lizzie on the piazza yesterday, and I think that you are quite right. I am not very lively and I am afraid that I often bore you. But, at the same time, my dear, it is only fair to say that sometimes *you* bore *me*. Of course I'm not as big and brave and courageous as *you* are, but if you will be happier without *me*, probably on the other hand I might be happier without *you*. So I have a little proposition to make, and it's just this: If this boat should upset and I should be drowned no one would ever know that it was not an accident. And of course if you should happen to be drowned and I should happen to be saved, that would be an accident too. Now, suppose we take two matches, one shorter than the other. I will hold them in my closed hand and let you take whichever you please. If you draw the long match then I will lose, and you can upset the boat and I will go down and never bother you any more. If you happen to draw the short match then *you* will be the one not to return to land.'

"Well, say, what do you suppose big, healthy, brave John did?" "*What did he do?*" all the tools cried out. "That's the point of the story," replied the Pocket Cork Screw. "I know, but I'm

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

not going to tell. I'm just going to leave it this way, like that story of the Lady and the Tiger, where each one can finish the story to suit himself."



"That's not fair," said a pair of Embroidery Scissors that had one point broken off, "I don't like stories to end that way. The kind of stories I like are those in which the hero and heroine get married in the last chapter and live happily forever after."

"I don't like this story, either," said a Saw with a bent blade. "I never did like them or these problem plays that just stir people up without any good reason."

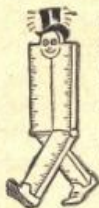
"By the way," remarked the Saw, "I once belonged to a carpenter who took up a subscription to the Pure Milk fund. After he had collected about \$100.00 one of the contributors said that he had not seen any report of the collection in the papers. 'What did you do with the money you collected?' 'Oh, I used it all right for the proper purpose,' answered the carpenter, 'I bought a Jersey cow.'"



Here a Diamond Edge Plane with a broken handle, remarked, "It's pretty hard for some people, with good intentions, to get jobs. I once knew a polccat that went all around trying to get a position as a nice little housekeeper, but none of the other families would give her any encouragement."

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

The Gimlet



A No. 68 Rule crossed one leg over the other, and remarked, "This golf game is consuming entirely too much of the time of some of these hardware manufacturers and jobbers. They to go to conventions, but instead of attending the sessions they don't do a thing but go out and play golf. They remind me of the story of the two Scotchmen. One said to the other, sez he, 'Sandy, will ye play golf in the morn?' Sandy, hesitated a moment and then answered, 'Yes, Andy.—I did intend to get married, but I will play with ye.'"

There was a dead silence after this joke. The No. 68 Rule wasn't very popular anyway, because he was always trying to measure everybody.

"By the way," remarked a rusty pair of Compasses, "have you ever noticed that you can push a pen, but that a pencil must be *lead*?"



"That joke is the limit," said a Folding Cup, as he collapsed and fell off the counter.



"Say," said a Level that had its spirit glass broken, "I heard a big manufacturer tell the other day how he got his start in life. It seems that about twenty-five years ago he was a traveling salesman and happened to be in Springfield, Ill. He got into a poker game and was out all night. At seven o'clock in the morning he returned to the hotel in broad daylight, very much the worse for wear. Seeing a barber shop open he decided to take a shave and have some hot cloths applied. While he was in

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

the chair a prominent manufacturer came into the shop. He saw the young man, and remarked, 'I'm always glad to see a young fellow rise early in the morning. It's a good sign. An early start in the day is half the battle.' The young man and the old manufacturer had breakfast together. The young man made quite an impression. He was offered a job by his elderly friend, he accepted it, married his daughter, and is now the head of the business."



"Fie, fie," cried a Butcher Knife. "Such a story will corrupt the morals of the entire hardware store."

Then, as the hands of the store clock pointed to twelve, all the old job lot of tools wished each other a Merry Christmas and hurried, helter-skelter, back to their drawer. After Christmas week the hardware merchant took stock, and as the tools were "guaranteed," he sent them back to their respective manufacturers for credit. When he sent the Pocket Knife back he wrote that his customer had told him he broke both blades *whittling a nice, clear piece of pine*. Of course the Knife knew better—he knew that his blades were broken trying to get the cork out of a bottle of beer. But then you know, goods that are "guaranteed" are *guaranteed*.

The old Axe went back because he had a "bad temper." The dealer wrote the manufacturer that the chips just flew out of his edge the first time he was used. The Axe, of course, couldn't say anything, but he knew that he had been left out in the woodshed on a cold, frosty night, and that the next morning the farmer came out and started chopping when his bit was brittle with frost. "Why," said the Axe to himself, "this old farmer didn't

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

The Gimlet

have sense enough to know that before using an axe in the wintertime it should have all the frost steamed out."

I guess, children, that you have had enough of this hardware story. But whenever you use a Hatchet or a Hammer or a Saw or a Pocket Knife, just remember that it is *alive* and thinks just as much as you do, only *it lives and thinks differently*.

Good Night. Merry Christmas.

Mike Kinney

Teamster and Editor.



"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

THE SHEPHERDS WENT THEIR HASTY WAY

The shepherds went their hasty way,
And found the lowly stable-shed,
Where the virgin-mother lay;
And now they checked their eager tread,
For to the Babe that at her bosom clung,
A mother's song the virgin-mother sung.

They told her how a glorious light,
Streaming from a heavenly throng,
Around them shone, suspending night!
While sweeter than a mother's song,
Blest angels heralded the Saviour's birth,
Glory to God on high! and peace on earth!

She listened to the tale divine,
And closer still the Babe she prest;
And while she cried, "The Babe is mine!"
The milk rushed faster to her breast;
Joy rose within her like a summer's morn;
Peace, peace on earth! the Prince of Peace is born.

Thou mother of the Prince of Peace,
Poor, simple, and of low estate!
That strife should vanish, battle cease,
O why should this thy soul elate?
Sweet music's loudest note, the poet's story,—
Didst thou ne'er love to hear of fame and glory?

And is not War a youthful king,
A stately hero clad in mail?
Beneath his footsteps laurels spring;
Him earth's majestic monarchs hail
Their friend, their playmate! and his bold bright eye
Compels the maiden's love-confessing sigh.

(OVER)

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"

The Gímlet

"Tell this in some more courtly scene,
To maids and youths in robes of state!
I am a woman poor and mean,
And therefore is my soul elate:
War is a ruffian all with guilt defiled,
That from the aged father tears his child.

"A murderous fiend by fiends adored,
He kills the sire and starves the son;
The husband kills and from her board
Steals all his widow's toil had won;
Plunders God's world of beauty; rends away
All safety from the night, all comfort from the day.

"Then wisely is my soul elate,
That strife should vanish, battle cease;
I'm poor and of a low estate,
The mother of the Prince of Peace.
Joy rises in me, like a summer's morn:
Peace, peace on earth! the Prince of Peace is born."
—*Samuel Taylor Coleridge.*

Dear to us are those who love us; the swift moments we spend with them are a compensation for a great deal of misery; they enlarge our life—but dearer are those who reject us as unworthy, for they add another life; they build a heaven before us, whereof we had not dreamed, and thereby supply to us new powers out of the recesses of the spirit, and urge us to new and unattempted performances.

—*Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things that are mighty.

—*1 Corinthians I., 27.*

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"



*Courtesy of Judge.
Copyright, Leslie-Judge Company,
1912.*

J. MONTGOMERY FLAGG

“HARDWARE”

NOT NEEDED

While a traveling man was waiting for an opportunity to show his samples to a merchant in a little backwoods town in Missouri, a customer came in and bought a couple of night shirts. Afterwards a long, lank lumberman, with his trousers stuffed in his boots, said to the merchant:

"What was them 'ere that feller bot?"

"Night shirts. Can I sell you one or two?"

"Naup, I reckon not," said the Missourian. "I don't set around much o' nights."—*Lippincott's*.

ABSOLUTE PROOF.

A man who had received a jury notice pleaded deafness as his excuse for not attending.

"I really am deaf," he said to the clerk who was enrolling the names.

"Prove it," said the clerk.

The man hesitated, then his face brightened as an organ commenced to play in the street outside.

"Can you hear that organ?" he said.

"Yes," replied the clerk.

"Well, I can't," replied the man triumphantly.

—*Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph*.

ONCE, BUT ENOUGH

A sweet young thing of eighteen who had not traveled much was riding on a railroad that was rather noted for its accidents.

"How deliciously dangerous," she thought. When the conductor came she said to him:

"How often do you kill a person on this road?"

The conductor smiled, and, as he clipped her ticket, he said:

"Just once, Miss."

COULDN'T GET AWAY

"I understand that, after waiting twenty years she married a struggling young man?"

"Yes, poor chap. He struggled the best he knew how, but she landed him."

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"



*If you have a hardware stock for sale or exchange.
If you want to buy or trade for a hardware stock.
If you are looking for a desirable location to embark in
the hardware business.
If you want a partner.
If you want a clerk or a tinner.
If you want a position in a retail hardware store.*

*Write THE GIMLET for our Want List.
It may help you solve your want problem.*

*In those holy fields
Over whose acres walked those blessed feet
Which fourteen hundred years ago were nail'd
For our advantage on the bitter cross.*

—Shakespeare.

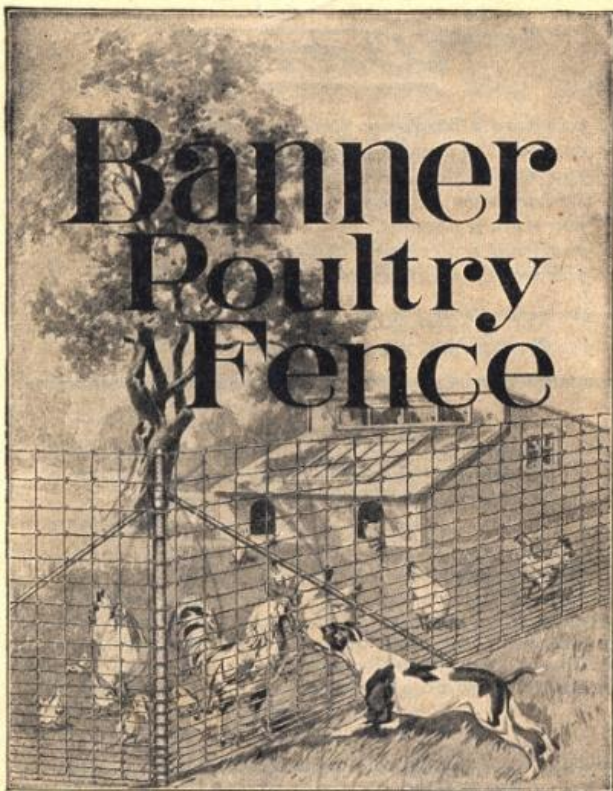
*Work in every hour, paid or unpaid, see only that thou
work, and thou canst not escape the reward; whether thy
work be fine or coarse, planting corn, or writing epics, so
only it be honest work, done to thine own approbation, it
shall earn a reward to the senses as well as to the thought:
no matter how often defeated, you are born to victory.*

—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

*Though the mills of God grind slowly, yet they grind ex-
ceeding small;
Though with patience He stands waiting, with exactness
grinds He all.*

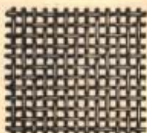
—Friedrich von Logau.

"DIAMOND EDGE IS A QUALITY PLEDGE"



We offer exceptional value in this good fence. Substantially made, close mesh, strong, durable, handsome. Well advertised, popular. We will back the DEALER as well as the PURCHASER. Write for our literature and our proposition.

AMERICAN STEEL AND WIRE COMPANY
72 W. ADAMS STREET, CHICAGO



Clinton Wire Cloth

We make many different kinds of Wire Cloth.

We can furnish any mesh from any kind or size of wire.

We carry the largest stock of all the standard grades handled by the Hardware trade, and can ship orders for same at sight.

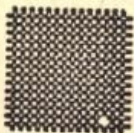
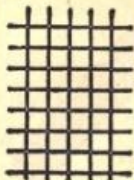
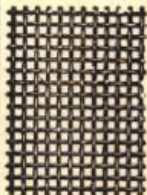
Quality and Finish unsurpassed and guaranteed.

SEND FOR PRICES

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CLOTH CO.**

CLINTON, MASS.

Boston New York
Chicago San Francisco



The Cochran Pipe Wrench

Look at the bend in the hook-jaw—
see how strongly it is reinforced?
Powerful grip with a quick
get-away. It never locks nor
crushes a pipe—guarantees
not to.

**Frame and Handle
One Solid Piece**

No small parts to keep
together. Nut longer
than on other pipe
wrenches, reduces
strain on threads.
Cannot bind and
gravity alone
brings instant
release.

Now, don't calcu-
late or guess what
this wrench will do—
you are enough of a
mechanic to recognize
the logical facts we set before
you—the Cochran Wrench will do
what we claim for it.



**Our Guarantee
Protects You**

Cochran Pipe Wrench Mfg. Co.
Chicago



Corbin Hardware Assortment No. 3400

A silent salesman that will attract the attention of the best people in your town; the people who have fads; who are doing odd jobs for entertainment; who do not care for expense.

This cabinet is 19 inches high, 16 inches wide and 11½ inches deep. The assortment consists of hinges, hinge hasps, label holders and pulls, mending straps, brackets, corner plates, padlock eyes, friction and suit case catches, box corners, shelf rests and escutcheons.

In all there are 43½ dozen with a retail value of \$31.57. The highest priced item, consisting of ¼ dozen only, is 40 cents retail. All the balance sell at from 2 cents each to 15 cents each and provide a most satisfactory profit margin. A retail price list is attached to inside of door.

WRITE YOUR JOBBER FOR NET PRICES

CORBIN CABINET LOCK COMPANY

NEW BRITAIN, CONN.

CHICAGO

NEW YORK

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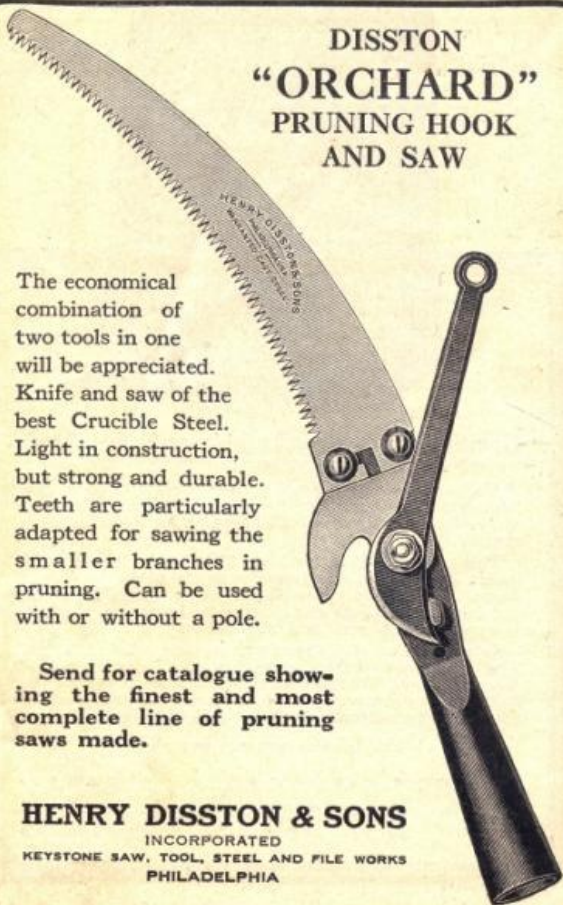
The Gimlet

DISSTON "ORCHARD" PRUNING HOOK AND SAW

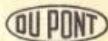
The economical combination of two tools in one will be appreciated. Knife and saw of the best Crucible Steel. Light in construction, but strong and durable. Teeth are particularly adapted for sawing the smaller branches in pruning. Can be used with or without a pole.

Send for catalogue showing the finest and most complete line of pruning saws made.

HENRY DISSTON & SONS
INCORPORATED
KEYSTONE SAW, TOOL, STEEL AND FILE WORKS
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SEND FOR THIS BOOK



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A DESCRIPTIVE BOOK of methods and means to use to increase sales and attract new customers to the stores of live dealers. It is a stimulation to wide-awake salesmen.

The aggressive advertising of Du Pont Goods and the satisfaction they give causes an increasing sale of them.

"Du Pont Helps for Dealers" tells how you can profitably share in this demand.

Ask Dept. 13 for this book and make practical use of its business-building suggestions.

Du Pont Sporting Powders

Are representative of that high degree of quality characteristic of every Du Pont product. Your standing as a dealer who sells goods of only the highest quality is emphasized when you stock Du Pont goods.

Sell shells having "Dupont" or "Ballistite" powder loads and promote the success of your sporting trade. Do this and you will escape the troubles incidental to inferior ammunition.

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America's Pioneer Powder Makers

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The Hardware
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AT LEAST ONE WEEK IN
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PIPE CARD EXPECTED WHICH
WILL INVOLVE IMPORTANT
CHANGE. SCREEN GOODS
HIGHER. DEALERS URGED
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NEWS SERVICE—FIRST IN
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IMPORTANT CONFERENCE
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SYSTEM THAT ACCOUNTS.
BIG HELP TO RETAILERS.
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NEW GOODS AND VALUABLE
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PAGE 89 FOR

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THE HARDWARE REPORTER

512 Olive Street, ST. LOUIS, MO

YES, INDEED!

The days of "Cheap and Flimsy" goods are past. "Quality" is fast being recognized; it's the *essence of economy*.

You recognize *Quality* in buying dresses, suits, shoes, implements, etc.: you *know* it is the *cheapest* to pay more money for better goods—they wear better, look better and last longer.

Are you one of the many who overlook this "*Point of Quality*" when buying the *most important article in your whole household*—your cooking range; the main spring to *Health, Happiness and Economy*.

Do you realize that most everything that keeps you and your family alive, comes from your cooking range. *The greatest outlay of money in your household* is for food-stuffs and fuel, and there, in your kitchen, lies the central and controlling fact in *household economy*.

There is as much difference between *cheap* and *quality ranges* as there is between cotton and silk. Women who are now using or who have even examined the *GREAT MAJESTIC RANGE*, no longer believe "just any" range will do.

THE GREAT MAJESTIC, "*THE RANGE WITH A REPUTATION*," is the *standard all over the world*—it's built on *honor*, of malleable and charcoal iron. Malleable iron cannot break, charcoal iron resists rust 300% greater than steel. It's cold riveted throughout, practically air-tight—lined with pure abestos board. It *bakes perfect*, heats *abundance of water*, quick and *hot*, uses very little fuel, is easy to keep clean, costs practically nothing for repairs and properly handled *lasts a lifetime*.

Be discriminating. Know why the MAJESTIC is so highly recommended by every user. Let the MAJESTIC DEALER in your town show you the range from top to bottom, inside and outside—he will gladly do so if you will call at his store.



A Most Acceptable Christmas Present.

If no Majestic dealer in your town—write us. We will send you our Range Comparison Booklet and name of our nearest dealer.

Majestic Manufacturing Co.

Dept. 501, ST. LOUIS

"Majestic, the Range with a Reputation"

The Gimlet

You are
in
wrong!



Unless you carry
ONEIDA COMMUNITY
GAME
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The Trapper wants them

NEWHOUSE
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The Largest Line of Hand Tools for Mechanics Offered by Any One Manufacturer

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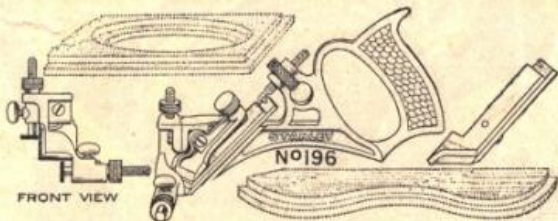
Full lines of Braces, Bits, Chisels, Gouges, Drawing-Knives, Squares, Calipers, Wrenches, Whitney Ratchets, Punches, Box-Joint Pliers, Lap-Joint Pliers, Splicing-Clamps, Tinnerns' Snips, Tinnerns' Stakes, Tinnerns' Tool Sets, etc.

Write for our new Dealers' Hand Tool Catalog, No. 12-B, listing and describing the entire line.

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TOOLS THAT YOU CAN TRUST



Stanley Tools

STANLEY CURVE RABBET PLANE

Another new STANLEY Plane that will undoubtedly be of great interest to all workers in wood.

As shown in the illustration it is designed to cut rabbets on circular or other curved and irregular edges. It works equally well whether the rabbet is to be cut on the outside edges of the work or on edges cut out from the surface of the work.

The new tool is handsomely finished, being fully nickel plated.

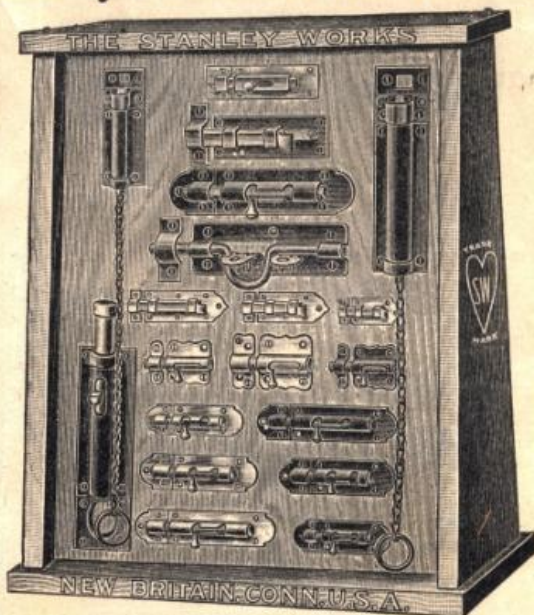
Ask your hardware dealer to show you this new plane.



Stanley
Rule & Level Co.
NEW BRITAIN, CONN. U.S.A.



Stanley's Cabinet Assortments



Assortment C, Door Bolts

There are four assortments, all interchangeable.

You can buy one Cabinet and change the stock
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A Stanley Cabinet on your counter means more
goods sold at bigger profits.

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Are Best Because They

Have the Hardest and Toughest Paper.
Do not need Steel Lining.

Have the Quickest and Strongest Primer.

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Accomplish Better Results in Game or Trap Shoot-
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Shells of Today.

Cut open a **BLACK SHELL** and compare its
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When a customer asks for the latest
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him about the **NON-MERCURIC PRIMER**,
the **large flash passage** and superior water-
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Send for book about shells.

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